

said. "We work smart, and we know how to get things done."

In addition to his work with the Korte Company, Ralph Korte has been involved with the creation and implementation of several initiatives on the SIUE campus. These initiatives include: the addition of the Construction Program in the fall of 1979; the construction of the Ralph Korte Stadium in 1993; the donation of the Ralph and Donna Korte Classroom, the creation of the Ralph and Donna Korte Fund for Leadership and Innovation in Business Education in 1999; and the launch of the SIUE Construction Leadership Institute in 2004.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Korte for his achievements in business and receiving this honor from Southern Illinois University of Edwardsville.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, as a leader on earmark reform, I am committed to protecting taxpayers' money and providing greater transparency and a fully accountable process H.R. 3082, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for 2010 contains the following funding that I requested:

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Bill Number: H.R. 3082

Account: Army

Legal Name Requesting Entity: Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Address: 39 Normandy Avenue, Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Description of Request: There is inadequate chapel space at Ft. Campbell. The current facilities are scattered across the entire installation in several substandard World War II buildings that are in disrepair. The construction of a chapel complex will provide every Fort Campbell soldier, their family members and retirees a quality facility in which to worship and practice their religious faith. As overseas deployments remain high, an increasing number of soldiers and families will rely on the chapel to support their spiritual needs. The local Clarksville Chamber of Commerce has strongly advocated for a new chapel on Ft. Campbell.

Distribution of funding:

Chapel—72 percent

Antiterrorism/Force Protection Measures—1 percent

Infrastructure (electric, water)—11 percent

Supervision, Inspection and Overhead—16 percent

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding a request for funding I made of the House Appropriations Committee for inclusion in H.R. 3082 the Military Construction—Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2010.

Specifically, the project will be included in Title 1, Military Construction—Army.

H.R. 3082 includes \$10.2 million for Phase 2 of the Ballistic Evaluation Facility in the Fiscal Year 2010 National Defense Authorization Act. The entity to receive the funding for this project is the United States Army, specifically the Armament Research Development and Engineering Center (ARDEC) located at Picatinny Arsenal, Picatinny, New Jersey, 07806-5000.

The actual design and construction will be executed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The funding will be used for planning, design and construction of a state-of-the-art Ballistic Experimentation Facility (BEF) for Large Caliber Armaments at Picatinny Arsenal. This process will produce a one-of-kind research and testing facility which will reduce Army's operational overhead and maintenance costs and improve safety for Army employees. The use of U.S. taxpayer funding is justified because this construction will provide near-term and long-range benefits to the joint warfighter—Army, Marines, Navy and Air Force.

HONORING SOUTHWESTERN HIGH SCHOOL PIASA BIRDS SOFTBALL PROGRAM

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the achievements of one of the top softball programs in Illinois.

Last month, the Piasa Birds of Southwestern High School took second place in the Illinois High School Association's state finals. It was the third time in four years that Southwestern reached the finals, and it tied for the best finish in school history. The Piasa Birds finished the year with 28 wins and four losses. They won an extra-inning thriller against West Carroll in the semifinals before falling to Olympia in the state championship.

I want to congratulate head coach Erin McAfee and assistant coach Michelle Woelfel on their achievement. Most of all, I want to congratulate the members of the 2009 Southwestern Piasa Birds state runner-up softball team: Amanda Hany, Niki Davis, Lizzy McAfee, Rebecca Wolff, Amanda Roberts, Samantha Boucher, Sydney Shelton, Ashley Jenkins, Ellie Thomas, Shauni Hernandez, Amanda Mitchell, Megan Smith, Samatha Davis, Katie Trombetta and Leslie Davis.

They have represented themselves, their school and the community very well, and I join with the other members of this House in wishing them continued success both on and off the field.

CONGRATULATING SYCAMORE SCHOALS STATE HISTORIC AREA

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2009

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sycamore Shoals

State Historic Area on their play "Liberty!" being recognized by the Tennessee General Assembly as the official outdoor drama of the State of Tennessee.

"Liberty!" has been performed annually during the month of July for 31 consecutive years. "Liberty!" tells the story of Tennessee's frontier beginnings by portraying the relationships between the American settlers and the native Cherokee Indians.

Hundreds of gifted local volunteers come together at the location where these historic events actually occurred and celebrate the lives of the people and depict important episodes that helped shape the heritage of this great state and country.

I want to congratulate and sincerely thank all of the volunteers that contribute their time and efforts to "Liberty!" for honoring our great state of Tennessee.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union has under consideration the bill (H.R. 2997) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the Flake amendment to cut potato research.

Potatoes are an important part of our national diet and potato farming is an important part of our national economy.

The \$1 million included in this bill for Potato Research goes directly to developing potato varieties that provide profitable, sustainable production for the grower, and a healthy, inexpensive food supply for American consumers.

In Skagit County in my district, over 13,000 acres are devoted to potatoes.

However, late blight disease is a constant threat to my local farmers, and growers use the research provided them by this program to minimize their losses.

Washington state is second only behind Idaho in potato production in the country producing over 9 billion pounds of potatoes every year.

The economic value of the potato industry to Washington is approximately \$3.5 billion supporting nearly 20,000 farming jobs. These jobs can be found across our state, and it is critical that we protect them.

The potato breeding program in the Pacific Northwest, the target of this amendment, is a partnership among the USDA Agricultural Research Service, the University of Idaho, Oregon State University, Washington State University, and the potato commissions of the three states.

For every dollar invested in the Northwest Tri-State Potato breeding program, a value of